Title: IMPLANTABLE LEAD WITH DISSOLVABLE COATING FOR IMPROVED FIXATION AND EXTRACTION

REMARKS

This responds to the Office Action dated March 7, 2006. Claims 36, 37, 45, 63, and 67 are amended. No claims are cancelled or added. As a result, claims 36-72 remain pending in this patent application.

§102 Rejection of the Claims

Claims 36-40, 42, 43, 45-48, 50, 51 and 63-72 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by Pohndorf et al. (U.S. Paten No. 5,776,178). Applicant respectfully submits that the above amendments to claims 36, 45, 63, and 67 overcome this rejection. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests withdrawal of this basis of rejection of claims 36-40, 42, 43, 45-48, 50, 51 and 63-72.

§103 Rejection of the Claims

Claims 41 and 49 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Pohndorf et al. (U.S. Paten No. 5,776,178) in view of Janke et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,240,321). Applicant respectfully submits that the above amendments to claims 36 and 45 overcome this rejection. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests withdrawal of this basis of rejection of claims 41 and 49.

Allowable Subject Matter

Applicant acknowledges the allowance of claims 53-62.

Claims 44 and 52 were indicated to be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Nonetheless, Applicant respectfully submits that such claims are allowable in their present form, with their base claims as amended. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests allowance of claims 44 and 52.

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CONCLUSION

Applicant respectfully submits that the claims are in condition for allowance and notification to that effect is earnestly requested. The Examiner is invited to telephone Applicant's attorney (612) 373-6951 to facilitate prosecution of this application.

If necessary, please charge any additional fees or credit overpayment to Deposit Account No. 19-0743.

Respectfully submitted,

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Date April 17 2006

Suneel Arora

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CERTIFICATE UNDER 37 CFR 1.8: The undersigned hereby certifies that this correspondence is being filed using the USPTO's electronic filing system EFS-Web, and is addressed to: Commissioner of Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 2213-1450, on this / 2 day of April,

Name

Signature